

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /099 W

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R 032114Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6616

UNCLAS OTTAWA 2075

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD CA

SUBJECT: EDC CONTRACTS AND ARAB BOYCOTT

REF: OTTAWA 1597

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN PARLIAMENT ON JUNE 2 RE  
CHANGES IN POLICY OF EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF INSURING  
CONTRACTS WITH ARAB BOYCOTT PROVISIONS:

BEGIN QUOTE

MR. PETER DAWDEN (CALGARY SOUTH): MR. SPEAKER, MY QUESTION IS  
ADDRESSED TO THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE.ON  
MAY 8, THE HON. GENTLEMAN STATED IN THIS HOUSE THAT THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION WOULD BE  
MEETING THE FOLLOWING WEEK TO CONSIDER ITS PRACTICES RELATING  
THE EDC INVOLVEMENT WITH EXPORT COMPANIES WHICH HAVE AGREED TO  
BOYCOTT ISRAEL. WILL THE MINISTER TELL US WHETHER AS A RESULT  
OF THIS MEETING ANY FIRM POLICY WAS AGREED UPON AND HAS HE NOW  
ISSUED A DIRECTIVE IN WRITING COVERING THISIMPORTANT MATTER?

HON. ALASTAIR GILLESPIE (MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND  
COMMERCE): THE BOARD DID REVIEW ITS POLICIES AND CON-  
FIRMEDTHAT IT WILL NOT NEGOTIATE ANY CONTRACT WHICH  
INVOLVED DIRECT LENDING WITH RESPECT TO AGREEMENTS  
CONTAINING AN ARAB BOYCOTT CLAUSE; IT WOULD NOT INSURE

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ANY INVESTMENT INVOLVING AN ARAB BOYCOTT CLAUSE AND

WITH RESPECT TO INSURANCE POLICIES IT WOULDNOT INSURE  
A BOYCOTT CLAUSE WITHIN SUCH A POLICY. THIS POSITION  
HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN TO ME AND I AM CONSIDERING IT  
TOGETHER WITH OTHER QUESTIONS AT THE PRESENT TIME.  
MR. BAWDEN: CAN THE MINISTER GIVE THE HOUSE A COMPLETE  
ASSURANCE THAT HE WILL BE ISSUING DIRECTIVES IN  
WRITING TO HIS DEPARTMENT AND TO THE EDC SO THAT THERE  
MAY BE NO QUESTION ABOUT THE POLICIES BEING FOLLOWED?  
MR. GILLESPIE: I THINK THE GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE  
WILL BE CONSIDERING THIS MATTER IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.  
THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE COMMUNICATED, OF  
COURSE, TO ALL DEPARTMENTS AND TO THE CROWN CORPORATION.  
END QUOTE.  
PORTER

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## Message Attributes

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